

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	East German Air Force	DATE DISTR.	25 May 1954
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		REFERENCES	

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Radar Station:

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The antenna on a 25-meter-high mast at the corner of Webschulestrasse and Schlachthofstrasse, Cottbus, is manned and serviced by members of the VdA (Verband der Aeroclubs, or East German Air Force) who wear blue shoulderboards. The antenna has often been seen to move from side to side through an angle of some 180 degrees, although there is no visible reason why it should not move through a complete circle. It was especially noted to be active at about 3 p.m. on 9 March, when two MIG-15's flew low over the airfield and passed directly over the antenna, at a height estimated to be well under 1,000 feet. The antenna is popularly but incorrectly locally rumored to be a "jammer" station. The real local jammer station is located on the roof of the town hall, and is operated from a room in the same building. The radar antenna stands in the grounds of the former Webschule, now the headquarters of the Bezirk Volkspolizei. However, the area on which the antenna stands is separated from the Volkspolizei headquarters, and the entrance to it is via Schlachthofstrasse, not Webschulestrasse. Vehicles and personnel going to the radar site pass the motor vehicle repair depot, the entrance to which is in Schlachthofstrasse, before reaching the site.

2. Flying Activity:

Activity between 10 February and 15 March 1954 was lively. Both YAK-18's and YAK-11's practiced take-offs, short flights and landings. Formation flights of up to four aircraft have also been a regular feature.

3. Paratroop Training:

At 8:30 a.m. on 3 March a party of 54 VdA officers and airmen, carrying small arms, marched from Cottbus airfield to Madelow. They were part of a force which is being trained as paratroops. So far only ground training has taken place.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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4. Radio Transmitter:

A transmitter antenna of unidentified type, previously reported at the east end of the airfield, would be more correctly located north-northeast of the airfield between the hangars.

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